SOURCE

- 1. During the winter months of 1952/1953, only in favorable weather, there was little air activity by jet aircraft in the border area near Eger (N 51/P 37). Since mid-January, jet aircraft have been observed almost daily with improving weather conditions. Source once observed Czech jet planes over German territory. In the second half of April, no Czech or other aircraft were observed flying in the Selb (M 51/P 18)-Waldsassen (M 51/P 26) area.
- 2. In early 1953, source observed jet planes with the Czech national emblem and divided air exhaust apertures under the mid-fuselage in the air space west of Eger. The planes which came from Eger flew toward Asch (M 51/P 18), turned in the Hasslau (M 51/P 28) area and subsequently followed the border as far as Waldsassen (M 51/P 26). Sometimes they flew in the opposite direction. Other planes from Eger headed south toward the border, then along the border in southeastern direction. The aircraft never flew beyond Hasslau to the north, probably not to cross the border. They mostly flew in groups of two, very seldom alone. There was an interval of 45 to 60 minutes between the landing of jet planes and the take-off by the next element of two. The Me-109 type Czech fighters which had been repeatedly observed in 1952 were no longer seen during the last weeks. On 17 March, a white stripe, about 1 meter wide, which could be well observed from the air, was being painted on the Schirnding (M 51/P 27)-Eger road along the Czech border.

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Comment. It was repeatedly reported that jet planes with Czech markings controlled the air space along the Czech border. The previously received description of the aircraft type used and the information in the present report that the planes had divided air exhaust apertures under their fuselages indicate that they probably were MiG-9 planes.

Elements of aircraft charged with border control were previously believed to be stationed at Cheb-Horschoen airfield, the southermost field of the two airfields near Cheb. It is possible that these aircraft belong to the SNB and are charged with local border control. The Me-109 planes which were repeatedly used prior to late 1952 were possibly replaced by MiG-9 jet planes. Border control from high altitudes is apparently conducted by Czechoslovakian fighter units equipped with MiG-15s stationed in West Czechoslovakia.

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